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stream of thought, and one strikes constantly against the rocks—or shall we call them the pebbles—of an almost catholic unacquaintance with economic science.

WALTER E. WEYL.

Progressive Democracy. By HERBERT CROLY. (New York: The Macmillan Company. 1914. Pp. 438. \$2.00.)

Croly's statement that privileges "are an essential part of any system of private property" is perhaps the fundamental position of his work. For he not only assumes private property as fundamental in our present society but believes also that it will last, approximately intact, for an indefinite period. He says progressivism proposes some radical changes in the existing social system; progressivism is not merely conservative, for it rejects the conservative view that there is "a substantial coincidence between the property-acquiring interest and the public interest." Against this assumption Croly says:

The aim of the whole program of modern social legislation is at bottom the creation of new system of special privilege intended for the benefit of a wage-earning rather than a property-owning class (p. 119).

However, he does not feel that privileges can be made even approximately equal. A central point of progressivism is to favor the working class and to change the distribution of privileges in its favor, but without so much as approaching equality of opportunity. His chief remedy for privilege is not a radical redistribution, but an appeal to the old aristocratic idea of attaching duties to rights. His frank reliance upon the privileged or ruling classes to bring about social progress proves that his position very closely resembles that of the so-called state socialists or state capitalists of Germany, such as Schmoller.

In dealing with the working class Croly adopts an attitude of frankness which very closely resembles that of the German national economists:

The truth is that the wage-system in its existing form creates a class of essential economic dependents (p. 382).

Ordinary progressive special legislation is intended to improve the operation of the system without touching its essential defect. But if plans of social insurance and minimum-wage boards have any tendency to undermine the independence of the wage-earner, that tendency results from the system itself, not from the attempts to improve it. The social legislative program cannot give real independence to people whose relation to their employers is one of dependence (p. 383).

Croly's process of thought is ideological and historical rather than scientific and economic. He bases his structure largely, if not wholly, on "economic and political traditions and ideas"—to employ a phrase he uses on his very first page.

Taking the nationalistic view, Croly commits a double error from the standpoint of social science. He fails absolutely to make any comparative study of political conditions and prospects in the various nations, and this forces him necessarily to rely very heavily upon the traditions of our own country. The length to which he goes in this direction may be briefly illustrated by the fact that he believes that the conservatives are governed mainly by their attachment to "the traditional American political and economic order," and he says little or nothing about their political and economic interests. It is scarcely necessary to give examples of the tendency of conservatives to abandon all traditions the moment their economic interests require them to do so. The European war alone has furnished many instances.

But all this criticism, far from taking away from the value of Croly's book, should rather serve to emphasize it, for his ideas are undoubtedly those of the majority of educated progressives in this country. He has not presented the economic basis of the progressive movement, indeed he has purposely refrained from doing so, but he has succeeded admirably in presenting its present mentality, in showing how the intelligent progressive wishes the public to understand his movement. Not all *practical* progressive leaders share in Croly's evidently sincere "ideology," but all who are intelligent enough must realize that this is probably the best form in which their movement can be presented to the public.

WILLIAM ENGLISH WALLING.

Industrial Education: Its Problems, Methods and Dangers. By ALBERT H. LEAKE. Hart, Schaffner and Marx Prize Essays, XV. (Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company. 1913. Pp. xi, 205. \$1.25.)

This essay, by the inspector of technical education, Ontario, is an interesting contrast to a much briefer essay on the same subject published by the reviewer in the same series ten years earlier. The latter was published at a time when interest in industrial education in the United States was just appearing and before there had been adequate investigation and discussion of the subject. Its purpose was to arouse interest and stimulate in-